VII. *Description of a new Genus of the Class Mammalia, from the Himalaya Chain of Hills between Nepaul and the Snowy Mountains. By Major-General Hardwicke, F.R.S., and F.L.S.*

Read November 6, 1821.

Char. Gen. *Dentes primores* utrinque sex, in eadem serie collocati, superiorum laterales majores, basi gradu interiore obliquo aucti, inferiorum laterales incrassati, apice latiores, externe oblique truncati, intermedii duo paululum breviores. *Laniarii* primoribus multo longiores, superiores conici recti, inferiores subarcuati, oblique patentes, utrinque pagina exteriore sulcis duobus longitudinalibus exarati. *Molares* utrinque quinque, serie rectâ collocati, gradatim ampliores ad quartum usque: suprà *primus* intervallo brevi ab laniariis remotus, majusculus, acie conoïdeâ procerâ posticè gradu abbreviato præditâ, latere interiore ad basin marginatus; *secundus* subincrassatus, cuspidibus tribus lateralibus, mediâ elatiore, duabus intermediis brevioribus, unâ interiore simplici minimâ, omnibus acutis, conicis aut compressis; *tertius* multicuspidatus, cuspidibus exterioribus suberectis, serie eâdem dispositis, intermediâ majore elatiore, interioribus duabus anticis conicis, basi tumidis, posticâ minore, cuspidibus lateralibus adpressâ, omnibus subobliquè truncatis, apicibus marginatis, circularibus aut undulatis concavis, tuberculo interiore minimo abbreviato margini basilari apposito; *quartus* maximus multicuspidatus, cuspidibus duabus exterioribus, anticâ tripartitâ elatiore,

tiore, intermediis duabus maximis, his omnibus truncatis, margine subprominente circulari aut undulato cinctis, tuberculis tribus interioribus abbreviatis, simplicibus, acutis, in marginem interiorem coadunatis; *quintus* paululum angustatus multicuspidatus, quarto structurâ ac divisione similis. *Dentes maxillæ inferioris* angustiores: *primus* sectorius compressus, acie procerâ gradu postico basilare præditâ; *secundus* ampliatus, cuspide intermediâ latere exteriore truncatâ, gradibus accessoriis duobus, antico brevi compresso, postico latiore truncato tritorio; *tertius* multicuspidatus, cuspide anteriore obliquè truncatâ, intermediâ maximâ, sulco profundo sejunctâ, basi conicâ irregulari, latere exteriore truncato, interiore dorso obliquo emarginato excurrens, cuspide posticâ latâ, abbreviatâ, truncatâ, tuberculo minimo interiore; *quartus* cuspidibus pluribus inæqualibus, aliis apicibus truncatis, marginatis, subprominentibus, aliis acutis, mamillaribus, abbreviatis; *quintus* longissimus multicuspidatus, cuspidibus interioribus truncatis, exterioribus acutis.

Caput subglobosum, magnum; *facies* subrotunda; *genæ* tumidæ; *frons* plana, elongata, lata. *Lingua* scabriuscula. *Rostrum* breve, conicum, latissimum. *Rictus* mediocris. *Rhinarium* obtusum; *nares* terminales. *Auriculæ* breves, acutæ, posteriores, distantes, villosæ. *Oculi* rhinario approximati, anticè positi. *Maxilla* intumescens. *Mandibula* subrecondita. *Vibrissæ* mastacales nonnullæ, albæ.

Collum breve.

Corpus magnum, cylindricum, obesum, codario villosissimo et pilis longis, æqualibus, molliusculis, basi lanuginosis, vestitum.

Cauda longitudine corporis, basi amplissima, cylindrica, versus apicem subattenuata, villis longissimis patentibus vestita.

Pedes

Pedes plantigradi, pentadactyli. *Plantæ* lanugine mollissimâ dense vestitæ. *Ungues* falculæ, compressæ, arcuatæ, acutissimæ (retractiles).

The body above is of a beautiful fulvous brown colour, which on the back becomes lighter, and assumes a golden hue. The brown colour extends with a somewhat deeper shade to the neck, the sides of the head and the ears posteriorly; and a band of the same colour arises from the eyes and unites to the back of the neck. The face, snout, and the ears are white; a few fulvous and yellowish hairs are mixed with the white covering of the forehead.

The abdomen and extremities are black, and separated by a defined line from the colour of the upper parts. The tail is banded alternately fulvous-brown and yellow, and tipt with black. The woolly covering of the soles of the feet is of a gray or blackish colour. The dimensions of this animal are,

Length of the head	7½ inches.
——— from the occiput to the root of the tail	19½ do.
——— of the tail	15 do.
Total length	42 inches, or 3 ft. 6 in.

The peculiarities of our animal, on which its rank as a genus depends, are striking and prominent; but its disposition in a natural series is still obscure, as it resembles in several characters the individuals of that subdivision of digitigrade carnassiers, from which it differs essentially both in its teeth and in its plantigrade walk. Among the peculiarities of our animal are to be noticed the great breadth of the rostrum and the singular structure of the teeth: but the most remarkable character, and that on which its distinction principally depends, is the form of

the projecting points of the posterior grinders. This character, as far as our observation extends, is peculiar; it does not exist, except in a small degree, in any other genus of carnivorous quadrupeds. The truncation, carefully described in the generic character, is owing, in our opinion, to original structure, and is not produced by the wearing down of the points. We observe it both in the skull of a young animal and in that of the adult specimen, from which the annexed drawing was made; and our description is confirmed by a careful comparison of the relative elevation of the points of the two anterior grinders, in which, although they are equally exposed to attrition, this truncation is not observed. The margins bounding the truncated points, as is shown in the drawing, are circumscribed and perfect, exhibiting no signs of being worn down by attrition. In the disposition and even in the form of the teeth, our animal bears some resemblance to the genera *Nasua* and *Procyon;* but these differ essentially in the lengthened form of the head, and in the extended rostrum, which is terminated by a flexible rhinarium; they also differ in the number, character, and distribution of the grinders. *Nasua* and *Procyon* have in both jaws six grinders, of which the three anterior are false grinders; and of those which follow, none of the points, even in the adult state, exhibit the truncation above described in the generic character. Our animal has only one false grinder, with a compound crown, and the four posterior grinders are large and highly complicated: the first of these in the upper jaw corresponds with the fourth grinder in *Nasua* and *Procyon*, and the points are attenuated and acute; but the posterior grinders are quite peculiar and characteristic in their structure.

Its haunts are about rivers and mountain-torrents. It lives much in trees, and feeds on birds and the smaller quadrupeds. It is frequently discovered by its loud cry or call, resembling

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